LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A non-asbestos friction material comprising:

a fibrous reinforcement;

a friction modifier;

a binder; and

a soluble amorphous substance mixed as friction material components, wherein the soluble amorphous substance is a composition composed of SiO_2 as a principal component, 18 to 40 wt% of at least one of CaO and MgO, at least 0.1 wt% but less than 10 wt% of at least one of Al_2O_3 and ZrO_2, and less than 2 wt% of at least one of Na_2O, K_2O, FeO, Fe_2O_3, and wherein the soluble amorphous substance is formed of individual fibers having an average fiber diameter in a range of from 2 μm to 9 μm and an average fiber length in a range of from 100 μm to 1,500 μm.

2. (Original) The non-asbestos friction material according to Claim 1, wherein the soluble amorphous substance is mixed in a range of from 1 wt% to 30 wt% of a total of said friction material.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) A non-asbestos friction material comprising:

a fibrous reinforcement;

a friction modifier;

a binder; and

a soluble amorphous substance mixed as friction material components, wherein the soluble amorphous substance is a composition composed of SiO_2 as a principal component, 18 to 40 wt% of at least one of CaO and MgO, at least 0.1 wt% but less than 10 wt% of at least one of Al_2O_3 and ZrO_2, and less than 2 wt% of at least one of Na_2O, K_2O, FeO, Fe_2O_3, and wherein the soluble amorphous substance is formed of grains having an average grain size in a range of from 2 μm to 100 μm.

7. (Previously Presented) The non-asbestos friction material according to Claim 6, wherein the soluble amorphous substance is mixed in a range of from 1 wt% to 30 wt% of a total of said friction material.

8. (New) The non-asbestos friction material according to claim 1, wherein the fibrous reinforcement comprises at least one of aromatic polyamide fibers, acrylic fibers, aramid fibers, copper fibers, steel fibers, potassium titanate fibers and Al_2O_3-SiO_2 ceramic fibers.